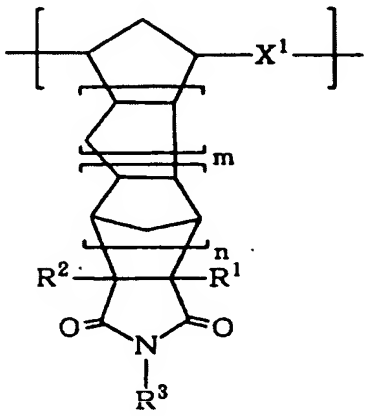
IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A ring-opened polynorbornene comprising a structural unit (I) represented by the following general formula (I):

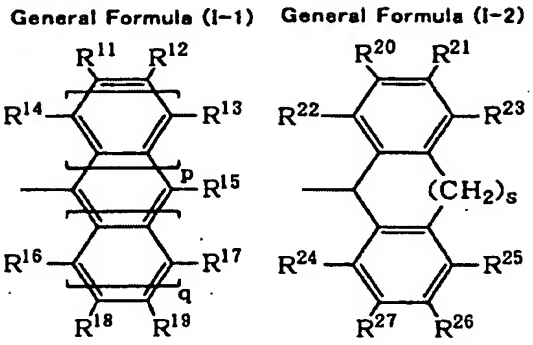
~~[Chemical formula 1]~~

General formula (I)



wherein in the general formula (I), m and n are, independently of each other, an integer of 0 to 2, X^1 means an ethylene ~~or vinylene~~ group, R^1 and R^2 denote, independently of each other, a hydrogen atom or a substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbon group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms, and R^3 represents a group represented by the following general formula (I-1) or a group represented by the following general formula (I-2):

~~[Chemical formula 2]~~

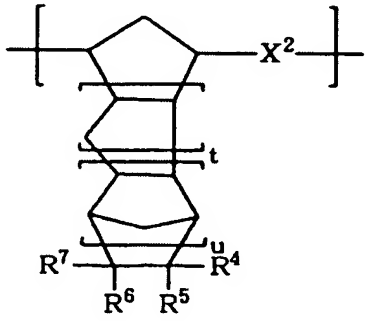


wherein in the general formulae (I-1) and (I-2), R^{11} to R^{27} denote, independently of one another, a hydrogen atom; a halogen atom; a substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbon group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms, which may have a linkage containing or not containing oxygen, sulfur, nitrogen and/or silicon atom(s); or a polar group, p and q in the general formula (I-1) are individually 0 or a positive integer, with the proviso that when both p and q are 0, R^{12} and R^{15}, or R^{19} and R^{15} may be bonded to each other to form a carbon ring or heterocyclic ring, and the carbon ring or heterocyclic ring may be either a monocyclic structure or a polycyclic structure, and s in the general formula (I-2) is 0 or an integer of 1 or greater.

Claim 2 (Original): The ring-opened polynorbornene according to claim 1, which comprises a structural unit (II) represented by the following general formula (II).

[Chemical formula 3]

General Formula (II)



wherein in the general formula (II), t and u are, independently of each other, 0 or a positive integer, X^2 means an ethylene or vinylene group, R^4 to R^7 denote, independently of one another, a hydrogen atom; a halogen atom; a substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbon group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms, which may have a linkage containing or not containing oxygen, sulfur, nitrogen and/or silicon atom(s); or a polar group, with the proviso that R^4 and R^5, or R^6 and R^7 may be united with each other to form a divalent hydrocarbon group, R^4 or R^5, and R^6 or R^7 may be bonded to each other to form a carbon ring or heterocyclic ring, and the carbon ring or heterocyclic ring may be either a monocyclic structure or a polycyclic structure.

Claim 3 (Original): The ring-opened polynorbornene according to claim 2, wherein the proportion of the structural unit (II) is at most 98 mol% based on the whole structural unit.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The ring-opened polynorbornene according to claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1 to 3,~~ wherein at least 90 mol% of X^1 in the general formula (I) and X^2 in the general formula (II) are ethylene groups.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The ring-opened polynorbornene according to claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1 to 4,~~ which has the structural unit (I), in which in the general formula (I), m is 0, and n is 1.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The ring-opened polynorbornene according to claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1 to 5,~~ which has the structural unit (I), in which in the general formula (I-1), p is 0, q is 0, and at least one of R^{11} and R^{18} is another substituent group than hydrogen.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The ring-opened polynorbornene according to claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1 to 5,~~ which has the structural unit (I), in which in the general formula (I-1), p is 0, q is 0, at least one of R^{11} and R^{18} has another substituent group than hydrogen, and at least one of R^{12}, R^{15} and R^{19} is another substituent group than hydrogen.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The ring-opened polynorbornene according to claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1 to 5,~~ which has the structural unit (I), in which in the general formula (I-1), p is 0, q is 0, and both R^{11} and R^{18} are other substituent groups than hydrogen.

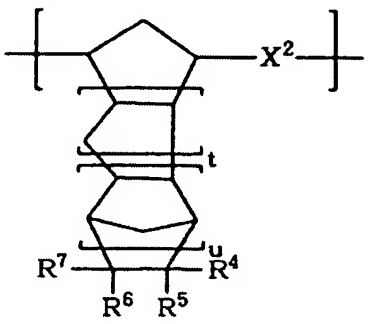
Claim 9 (New): A process for producing a hydrogenated ring-opened polynorbornene of claim 1, which comprises:

a step of ring-opening reaction of a monomer having a stuructural unit (I) represented by the general formula (I) and

a step of hydrogenation of the product of the former step wherein the hydrogenation rate of the vinylene groups is at least 90%.

Claim 10 (New): The ring-opened polynorbornene according to claim 9, which comprises a structural unit (II) represented by the following general formula (II)

General Formula (II)



wherein in the general formula (II), t and u are, independently of each other, 0 or a positive integer, X^2 means an ethylene or vinylene group, R^4 to R^7 denote, independently of one another, a hydrogen atom; a halogen atom; a substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbon group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms, which may have a linkage containing or not containing oxygen, sulfur, nitrogen and/or silicon atom(s); or a polar group, with the proviso that R^4 and R^5, or R^6 and R^7 may be united with each other to form a divalent hydrocarbon group, R^4 or R^5, and R^6 or R^7 may be bonded to each other to form a carbon ring or heterocyclic ring, and the carbon ring or heterocyclic ring may be either a monocyclic structure or a polycyclic structure.

Claim 11 (New): The ring-opened polynorbornene according to claim 10, wherein the proportion of the structural unit (II) is at most 98 mol% based on the whole structural unit.

Claim 12 (New): The ring-opened polynorbornene according to claim 9, wherein at least 90 mol% of X^1 in the general formula (I) and X^2 in the general formula (II) are ethylene groups.

Claim 13 (New): The ring-opened polynorbornene according to claim 9, which has the structural unit (I), in which in the general formula (I), m is 0, and n is 1.

Claim 14 (New): The ring-opened polynorbornene according to claim 9, which has the structural unit (I), in which in the general formula (I-1), p is 0, q is 0, and at least one of R^{11} and R^{18} is another substituent group than hydrogen.

Claim 15 (New): The ring-opened polynorbornene according to claim 9, which has the structural unit (I), in which in the general formula (I-1), p is 0, q is 0, at least one of R^{11} and R^{18} has another substituent group than hydrogen, and at least one of R^{12}, R^{15} and R^{19} is another substituent group than hydrogen.

Claim 16 (New): The ring-opened polynorbornene according to claim 9, which has the structural unit (I), in which in the general formula (I-1), p is 0, q is 0, and both R^{11} and R^{18} are other substituent groups than hydrogen.

DISCUSSION OF AMENDMENT

The Specification is amended in order to correct a minor typographical error.

The Abstract is amended in order to meet the guidelines set forth in MPEP § 608.01(b). A clean copy is enclosed at the end of this paper.

New Claims 9-16 are added. Support for new Claim 9 is found throughout the originally filed specification text, such as on pages 42-43 and 47-48. Support for new Claims 10-16 is found in original Claims 2-8.

Claims 1 and 4-8 are amended in order to improve readability. No new matter is believed to be added upon entry of the amendment.

Upon entry of the amendment, Claims 1-16 will be active.